

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides an apparatus for efficient communication of messages such as voice messages in a telephone answering system. The apparatus includes an input to receive an incoming call, a recorder for recording outgoing messages, a memory to store incoming and outgoing messages, a comparator for comparing caller information to a client list, a player for playing a particular outgoing message to a calling party if the caller information matches a specific client in the client list, and a menu for identifying members of the client list and to identify locations in the memory for each of the members. The particular outgoing message includes a question previously posed by the specific client and a response to the question.

463880\_1.DOC